

OUTGOING TELEGRAM
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FORM DS 322 (OCR)

-8 MAY 72 23 04

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ROGERS TURE

UNCLASSIFIED

CLASSIFICATION

SPECIAL CHARGES

EUR/CE: FTRINKA

05/8/72 EXT 21288

EUR/CE: GSPRINGSTEEN

EUR/CE: JSSUTTERLIN

EUR/P: ESAVAGE

S/PRS: JFKINGARANCES

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY MDC/MA DATE 3/13/81

EDS or XDS EXT. DATE

TS AUTH REASON(S)

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS

DECLASSIFIED RELEASABLE

RELEASE DENIED

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

IMMEDIATE

VIENNA

SUBJ: JDL INCIDENT AT AUSTRIAN EMBASSY

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF STATEMENT DEPARTMENT DISTRIBUTED TODAY REGARDING JDL INCIDENT AT AUSTRIAN EMBASSY:

QUOTE. ACCORDING TO AN AUSTRIAN EMBASSY STAFF MEMBER, ABOUT A DOZEN JDL MEMBERS ENTERED THE AUSTRIAN EMBASSY BUILDING AT MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE AT ABOUT 11 A.M., MAY 8, TO PROTEST AN AUSTRIAN COURT'S ACQUITTAL LAST WEEK OF AN AUSTRIAN ON CRIMINAL CHARGES RELATING TO HIS ACTIVITIES AT THE MAUTHAUSEN CONCENTRATION CAMP DURING WORLD WAR II. THE JDL MEMBERS ASKED TO SEE THE AMBASSADOR AND WERE TOLD HE WOULD BE HAPPY TO MEET WITH THEM AFTER HE HAD HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO TALK TO VIENNA SINCE HE HAD NO INFORMATION ON THE CASE.

QUOTE. SEVERAL JDL MEMBERS THEN RAN UP A LARGE NAZI FLAG ON THE EMBASSY BUILDING. AUSTRIAN EMBASSY MEMBERS TOOK DOWN THE FLAG AND, IN DOING SO, WERE ABUSE AND INVECTIVE BY THE JDL MEMBERS. THE AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR LATER RECEIVED SEVERAL JDL MEMBERS AND AGREED TO TALK TO THEM AGAIN NEXT WEEK AFTER FIRST CONFERRING WITH VIENNA.

QUOTE. NEITHER AMBASSADOR GRUBER NOR OTHER DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL WERE INJURED DURING THE INCIDENT. IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT THE JANITOR OF THE AUSTRIAN EMBASSY RECEIVED SEVERAL BLOWS IN THE FACE.

QUOTE. EXECUTIVE PROTECTIVE SERVICE POLICE WERE AT THE

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Continuation Sheet

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QUOTE. EXECUTIVE PROTECTIVE SERVICE POLICE WERE AT THE SCENE SHORTLY AFTER BEING NOTIFIED OF THE INCIDENT. NO CHARGES HAVE BEEN FILED NOR WERE ANY ARRESTS MADE.

QUOTE. WE CONSIDER THE JDL ACTION AGAINST THE AUSTRIAN EMBASSY EXTREMELY REGRETTABLE. IN THIS CONTEXT IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR GRUBER HIMSELF WAS A MAJOR LEADER IN THE AUSTRIAN RESISTANCE AND HAS A REPUTATION OF BEING OPPOSED TO ALL FORMS OF TYRANNY-- FROM WHATEVER SOURCE. IT SHOULD ALSO BE NOTED THAT AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR KREISKY IS JEWISH AND THAT THE AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT PROVIDES FACILITATIVE SERVICES TO JEWS FROM THE SOVIET UNION AND EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES PASSING THROUGH AUSTRIA AS IMMIGRANTS ON THEIR WAY TO ISRAEL AND ELSEWHERE. THE ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR EUROPEAN AFFAIRS, GEORGE SPRINGSTEEN, HAS EXPRESSED TO AMBASSADOR GRUBER THE US GOVERNMENT'S REGRETS OVER THE INCIDENT. END QUOTE.

2. EMBASSY MAY WISH TO EXPRESS REGRETS OVER INCIDENT AT APPROPRIATE LEVEL FOREIGN OFFICE. 44

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